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Senator Marioneaux talks Rural Development Grant

By Brandy M. Staton
Editor

The East Feliciana Parish Police Jury heard comments concerning the Rural Development Grant applied for by the jury several months ago. Senator Rob Marioneaux was on hand to talk to the jury last Tuesday afternoon concerning the \$98,000 grant monies, and how the jury would possibly split the funding throughout the parish.

Senator Marioneaux advised that the problem they have in their area is how to divide the funding to ben-

efit all areas within the parish that need the funding. He said that normally the governing body decides how to disperse the funding between local municipalities, the East Feliciana Parish School Board, local fire departments and other agencies.

He advised that they had a lot of requests for the \$98,000 and wanted some encouragement from the jury on how the split will take place. He said that the money is there and is available for East Feliciana.

"West Baton Rouge is the only parish that I know that lays it all out," said Marioneaux. "I am pleased to say that Norwood received monies for their water system."

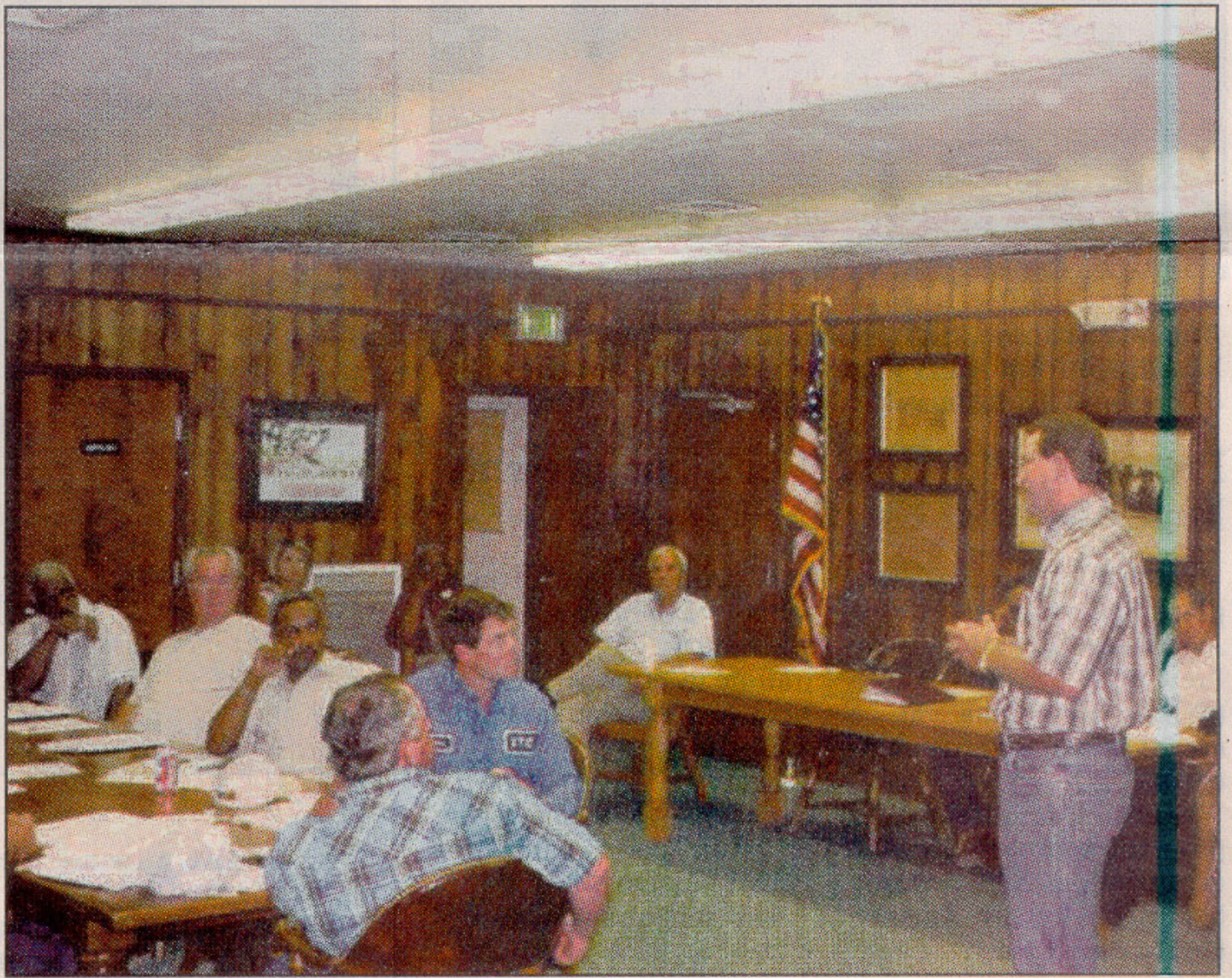
"This is your parish and you know East Feliciana. I know what you are struggling with and if I can be of

any help please let me know."

Juror John Barnett asked Marioneaux if he thought the Rural Development Grant would go up in the near future. Senator Marioneaux stated that the press had been talking about "Slush Funds." The "Slush Funds" that the press keeps talking about is their Rural Development and Urban Development Funds. "Projects that have been helping East Feliciana and the other areas like the fire department and sidewalk's is who's getting it."

"You and I feel the different between \$140,000 and \$98,000, where other areas do not," Marioneaux added.

Marioneaux stated that he is an advocate for Rural Development, he just wished there were more funding available for this area.



-Staff Photo by Brandy M. Staton

Senator Rob Marionneaux talking to Police Jury last week.